

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method of searching for data in heterogeneous data sources with a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a request for data at a given federated data source; and
from the given federated data source, retrieving data from a plurality of datastores, including:
data from one or more terminal data repositories, and
data, with a schema structural view of the data, from one or more other federated data
sources, and
data, without a schema structural view of the data, from one or more search gateway data
sources;
the given federated data source providing a unified schema structural view of: (a) the data from
the plurality of datastores, (b) the data from the terminal data repositories, and (c) the data and
schema structural view from the other federated data sources.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each search gateway data source searches for data in one or more other data sources.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the each~~ federated data source, each terminal data repository, and each search gateway data source is represented by a data object.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein each data object is based on a class that inherits the properties of a base ~~data source~~ datastore class.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein each data object is manipulated via methods of the class on which the data object is based.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving data from one or more search gateway data sources comprises submitting a search gateway query from the given federated data source to each search gateway data source.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each terminal data repository and each search gateway data source may be queried for data directly.
8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for searching for data in one or more heterogeneous data sources, comprising:
a computer system accessing said one or more heterogeneous data sources; and
one or more computer programs, performed by the computer system, for:
receiving a request for data at a given federated data source; and
from the given federated data source, retrieving data from a plurality of datastores,
including:
data from one or more terminal data repositories,
data, with a schema structural view of the data, from one or more other federated
data sources, and
data, without a schema structural view of the data, from one or more search
gateway data sources;
the given federated data source providing a unified schema structural view of: (a) the data from
the plurality of datastores, (b) the data from the terminal data repositories, and (c) the data
and schema structural view from the other federated data sources
~~receiving a request for data at a federated data source and,~~
~~retrieving data from the federated data source from one or more terminal data repositories~~
~~and one or more search gateway data sources.~~

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLICATION NO. 09/399,682
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. A8009

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein each search gateway data source searches for data in one or more other data sources.
10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein ~~the each~~ federated data source, each terminal data repository, and each search gateway data source is a data object.
11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein each data object is based on a class that inherits the properties of a base ~~data source~~ datastore class.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein each data object is manipulated via methods of the class on which the object data is based.
13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein retrieving data from one or more search gateway data sources comprises submitting a search gateway query from the given federated data source to each search gateway data source.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein each terminal data repository and each search gateway data source may be queried for data directly.
15. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for searching for data in one or more heterogeneous data sources within a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a request for data at a given federated data source; and
from the given federated data source, retrieving data from a plurality of datastores, including:
data from one or more terminal data repositories.

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data, with a schema structural view of the data, from one or more other federated data sources, and

data, without a schema structural view of the data, from one or more search gateway data sources;

the given federated data source providing a unified schema structural view of: (a) the data from the plurality of datastores, (b) the data from the terminal data repositories, and (c) the data and schema structural view from the other federated data sources
receiving a request for data at a federated data source; and
from the federated data source, retrieving data from one or more terminal data repositories and one or more search gateway data sources.

16. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein each search gateway data source searches for data in one or more other data sources.

17. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the federated data source, each terminal data repository, and each search gateway data source is represented by a data object.

18. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 17, wherein each data object is based on a class that inherits the properties of a base ~~data source~~ datastore class.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 18, wherein each data object is manipulated via methods of the class on which the data object is based.

20. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein retrieving data from one or more search gateway data sources comprises submitting a search gateway query from the given federated data source to each search gateway data source.

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21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein each terminal data repository and each search gateway data source may be queried for data directly.